

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 SCS-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 HEW-08 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

RSC-01 SCA-01 USIA-15 SWF-02 DRC-01 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 SAM-01 /156 W

----- 126479

P R 241218Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5230

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15069

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SWEL, CY, GW

SUBJECT: CYPRUS DISASTER RELIEF -- UNHCR APPEAL

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REF: STATE 208791

1. EMBASSY ECON COUNSELOR MET WITH FONOFF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FISCHER AND MADE REPRESENTATIONS ALONG THE LINES OF REFTEL. FISCHER'S DEPUTY FOR DISASTER RELIEF MATTERS, ZEHENTER, WAS ALSO PRESENT AT THE MEETING. FONOFF OFFICIALS SAID THAT THEY HAD HEARD LAST WEEK OF \$22 MILLION ESTIMATE OF CYPRUS RELIEF REQUIREMENTS FROM THE BONN RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNHCR AND THAT USG MIGHT PROVIDE ONE THIRD OF THAT AMOUNT.

2. FONOFF REPS BRIEFLY REVIEWED FRG PROGRAM FOR CYPRUS DISASTER RELIEF, VALUED AT DM 3 MILLION, INCLUDING CASH CONTRIBUTIONS OF DM HALF MILLION TO IRC. THEY INDICATED THAT THIS LEVEL OF AID, WHICH HAD NOT YET BEEN FULLY EXPENDED, HAS ALREADY PLACED THE FRG AT THE TOP OF DONOR LIST AMONG EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS. THEY FURTHER SAID THAT APPEALS FOR CASH CONTINUE TO COME FROM IRC, FROM COUNCIL OF EUROPE IN STRASBOURG (OF WHICH CYPRUS IS A MEMBER) AND NOW FROM UNHCR. FRG IS "NOT TOO HAPPY" WITH THESE UNCOORDINATED APPEALS FOR AID AND THE FONOFF REPS EXPRESSED GUARDED CRITICISM OF UNHCR'S FAILURE TO FULFILL RIGHTFUL ROLE OF COORDINATOR OF INTERNATIONAL RELIEF EFFORTS.

3. HAVING THUS EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS ON THE PROLIFERATION OF APPEALS FOR FUNDS, THE FONOFF OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT THE FRG WILL, OF COURSE, "NOT STAND ASIDE" AND WILL BE READY TO CONTRIBUTE TO A COORDINATED (WITH EMPHASIS ON COORDINATED) INTERNATIONAL RELIEF EFFORT, ALTHOUGH THE FRG HAS NO READY FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE AND SPECIAL EFFORTS WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE TO FIND NEW MONEY. AT THIS JUNCTURE THEREFORE, THEY COULD NOT MAKE ANY CONCRETE STATEMENT ON ANY LIKELY FUTURE CONTRIBUTION BY THE FRG TO THE UNHCR. THEY ADDED PARENTHETICALLY THAT THERE IS A GROWING RELUCTANCE IN THE BUNDESTAG TO THE COMMITMENT OF FUNDS FOR MULTILATERAL AID, AS OPPOSED TO DIRECT BILATERAL

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ASSISTANCE. THIS BUDDING OPPOSITION STEMS FROM THE CONVICTION THAT AN INORDINATE PROPORTION OF CONTRIBUTED MULTILATERAL AID FUNDS IS DISSIPATED ON ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD COSTS, THUS REDUCING THE OPTIMUM BENEFITS TO THE ULTIMATE RECIPIENTS.

4. FINALLY, THE FRG OFFICIALS COMMENTED THAT, ACCORDING TO REPORTS RECEIVED FROM THE FRG EMBASSY

IN CYPRUS, THE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF EFFORT HAS
ACQUIRED A POLITICAL OVERLAY IN THE EYES OF THE
CYPRIOT GREEK COMMUNITY, WHICH IS NOT KEEN ON HAVING
AN EFFORT MOUNTED IN A WAY THAT WOULD GIVE THEIR
CURRENT STATUS AS REFUGEES FROM THEIR HOMES AN AIR
OF PERMANENCY.
HILLENBRAND

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